Act.39

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...
RRINGG
JUST LIKE WE PLANNED.
BEEP
IT'S ME... ARE YOU OKAY?
I'M WORRIED. CALL ME.
THE PERSON YOU HAVE DIALED CANNOT BE REACHED.
PLEASE LEAVE YOUR NAME AND A MESSAGE AT THE SOUND OF THE TONE.
BEEEEP
WHY WON'T HE PICK UP? IT'S BEEN TEN DAYS SINCE HE LEFT THAT WEIRD MESSAGE AND DISAPPEARED!
DAMN.
THROB
SOMETHING MUST'VE HAPPENED.
I THOUGHT IT WAS SOME KIND OF BAD JOKE AT FIRST, BUT HISATO USED TO ALWAYS PICK UP RIGHT AWAY, AND NOW HE'S JUST GONE?
UGH...
SHI
help.

VRRRR
Incoming: SACRIFICE
...
HOW MANY TIMES HAS HE CALLED YOU THE PAST FEW DAYS?
GATA
FIRST DAY IT WAS JUST FIVE OR SIX TIMES, BUT NOW IT'S ABOUT EVERY 20 MINUTES.
HMPH. PRETTY WEIRD. HE'S LIKE A STALKER.
SERIOUSLY.

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DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GETTING HIGH DURING THE DAY NOW!
HEY, KATSUKI MIGHT KNOW...
NO, IT'S NOT THAT-
HEY, NOW!
ACTUALLY I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO GET MUCH WORK DONE THE PAST FEW DAYS.
SORRY...

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I WAS TALKING ABOUT THE RED.
BUSH
WHEN DID I SAY ANYTHING ABOUT HISATO?
I WAS JUST THINKING YOU'RE PRETTY HOOKED. HEE HEE.
THE KID? NAH...
WHA...! I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT KID. WHAT'RE YOU-!
I KNOW, I KNOW. SORRY, BUT...
N-NO, I MEAN-
MOST DEALERS AREN'T GONNA ANSWER THE PHONE AFTER THEY'VE DONE A DEAL.
IT'S SAFER TO THINK THEY'RE IN A SITUATION WHERE THEY CAN'T PICK UP THE PHONE.
EVEN IF I KNEW WHERE HE WAS, I COULDN'T TELL YOU RIGHT NOW.
WHAT...?

HE IS THE ONE WHO FIRST INTRODUCED ME TO HISATO, ISN'T HE?
I WANT TO ASK YOU SOME-THING.
WHAT?
DO YOU KNOW WHERE HISATO LIVES?
...!
I JUST BARELY GOT RELEASED, SO IT'S TOO DANGEROUS FOR ME TO JUST GO OUT AND SCORE...
HMPH...
KRUMPLE
WHY DO YOU SUDDENLY WANT TO KNOW THAT?
I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO GET HIM ON THE PHONE FOR A FEW DAYS.
AND I'M RUNNING LOW...
HA HA HA HA HA!
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?!
SORRY, SORRY...

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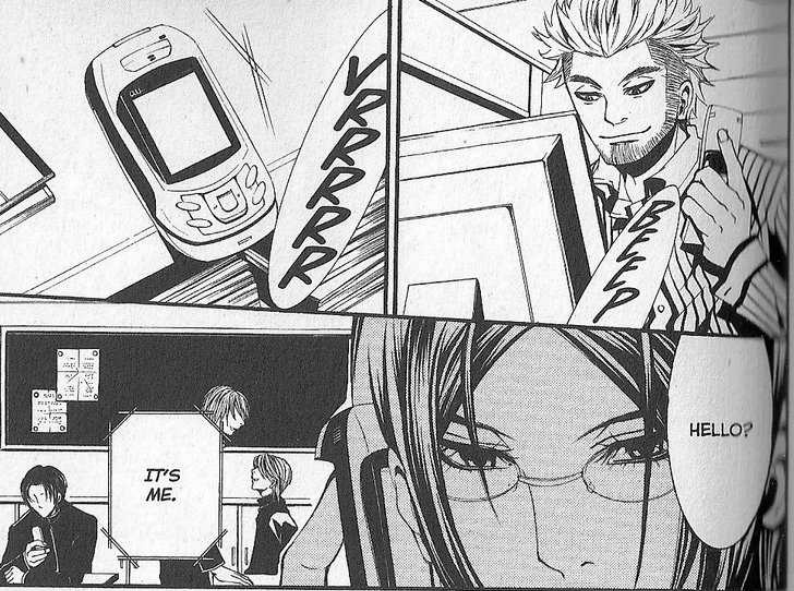
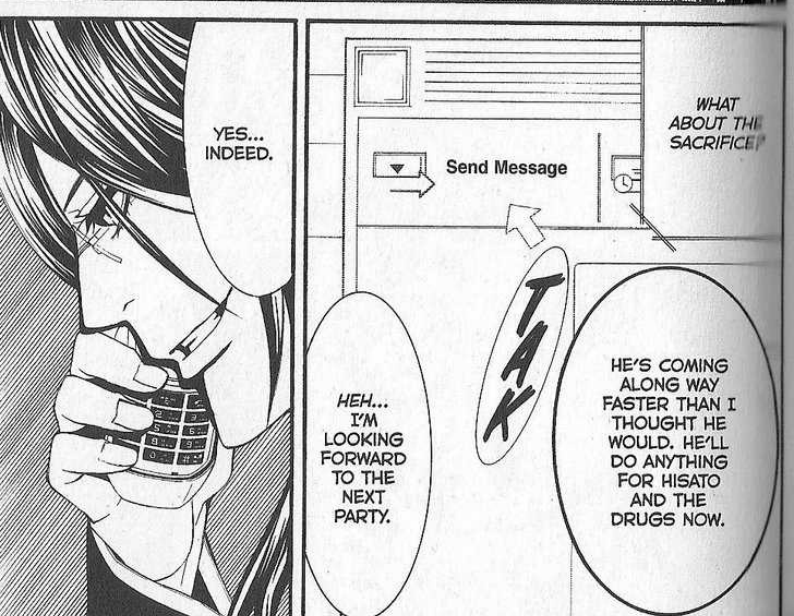
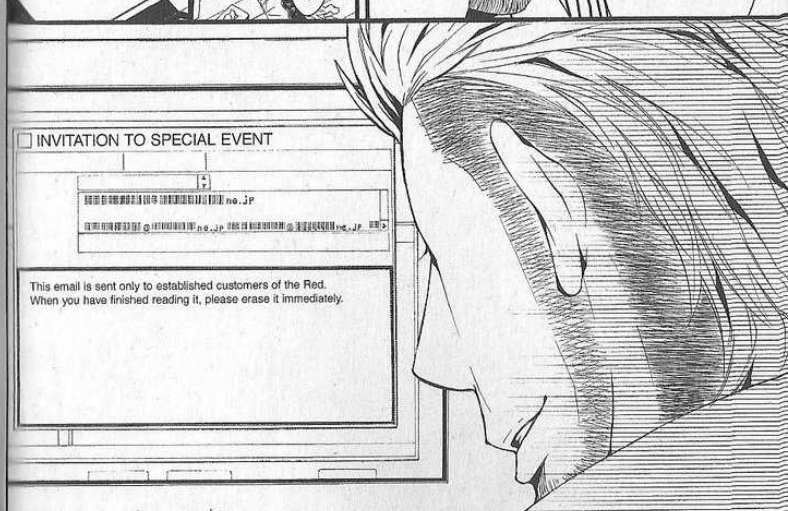



YES... INDEED.
Send Message
WHAT ABOUT THE SACRIFICE?
TAK
HEH... I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT PARTY.
HE'S COMING ALONG WAY FASTER THAN I THOUGHT HE WOULD. HE'LL DO ANYTHING FOR HISATO AND THE DRUGS NOW.

ALL KINDS OF THINGS HAPPEN IN THE DRUG BIZ, Y'KNOW?
...
I DON'T WANT YOU DOING SOMETHING DUMB AND GETTING ME IN TROUBLE. YOU SHOULD WATCH OUT FOR YOURSELF TOO.
THEY COULD BE IN A PRETTY DANGER-OUS PLACE.
DANGER-OUS...?


INVITATION TO SPECIAL EVENT
This email is sent only to established customers of the Red.
When you have finished reading it, please erase it immediately.

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WE'RE FROM THE GREATER KANTO PUBLIC WELFARE MINISTRY, AND WE'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU FOR A MINUTE.
WEDNES-DAY NIGHT?
CHK
NOBODY'S GONNA HAVE A PARTY ON A WEEKDAY NIGHT LIKE THAT.
THAT'S ODD.
PFFF
A SECRET EVENT?
I HEARD THE MAN I ARRESTED THE OTHER DAY SAY THERE WAS A SECRET EVENT HERE.
uhh
um
SO IF THERE WERE, ARE YOU SAYING I'M DEALING DOPE OR SOME-THING?
IF YOU WANT TO DO A BUST, YOU BETTER BRING SOME PROOF.
...

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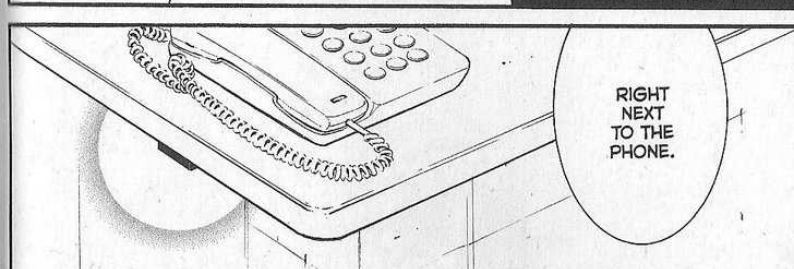
OKAY...
THEY KNEW ABOUT WEDNESDAY NIGHTS. WHAT... WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO ABOUT THIS WEEK?
THEY'RE FASTER THAN I THOUGHT...
IF THEY'RE GONNA TIME THEIR SEARCH FOR THAT NIGHT...
...

NO PROOF, SHE SAID...
SHE SEEMED PRETTY CONFIDENT.
IT'S STILL WITHIN THE RANGE OF POSSIBILITY. ANYWAY...
AND IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY, THEN GET OUT OF HERE!
SLAM
YOU DAMN BUREAU-CRAT!



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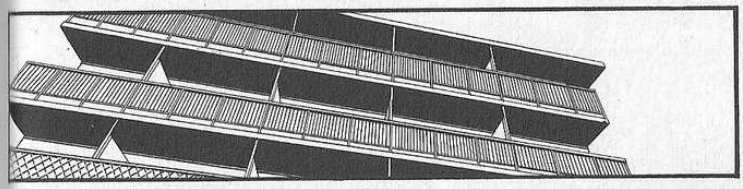
LISTEN, KATSUKI...
MAYBE... MAYBE WE SHOULD PUT OFF THIS WEDNES-DAY'S THING.
YEAH?
NO SUSPICIOUS CARS OUTSIDE AT THE MOMENT.
THERE'S SURVEIL-LANCE ON SHINODA.
HOW ABOUT YOU?
LUCKY THING.

GUESS THAT MEANS THEY'RE NIBBLING AT US SOONER 'N WE EXPECTED.
BEEP
HASN'T EVEN BEEN A MONTH SINCE KATSUKI CONTACTED THE NARCS AND TOLD 'EM SHINODA WAS INVOLVED...
SHUFF SHUFF

...SO MAYBE WE SHOULD FIND A NEW SACRIFICE OR POSTPONE THE...
SHINODA'S SURROUNDED, WHICH MEANS IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY START LOOKING AT YOU...
...
!
IF WE DON'T DO IT NOW, THEN WHAT?



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I'M DAMN NEAR SURE THEY'RE ANGLING FOR A BUST ON WEDNESDAY.
I KNOW. THAT'S WHY...
WE NEED A SACRIFICE FOR THE RED BECAUSE THE LAW IS CLOSING IN!
BUT...
THE ONLY WAY TO KEEP IT UP IS TO HAVE SOMEONE TAKE THE FALL FOR US!
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF WAITING UNTIL WEDNESDAY.
THE POINT IS, SHINODA JUST NEEDS TO DISAPPEAR BEFORE THEY NOTICE.
I WONDER IF KATSUKI'S NOT HEADING OUT AGAIN TODAY...

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KACHAK
HELLO...?
!
HISATO ?!
SHINODA...
!
PROVOKING THE CLUB OWNER WAS THE RIGHT PLAY.
NOW THEY'RE MAKING THEIR MOVE.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? I'VE BEEN WORRIED EVER SINCE YOU LEFT THAT NOTE...
...
WELL...
SHINODA...
OR ARE YOU ANGRY BECAUSE OF THE RESEARCH I WAS DOING?
NO...
WHERE'S HISATO AKIYAMA?
AT HOME.
THOUGHT SO. "FRIEND'S HOUSE," MY ASS.
LOOK, HISATO... IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO, YOU'LL TELL ME, RIGHT?
SHINODA...
I'M HIDING AT A FRIEND'S HOUSE.
BUT I CAN'T STAY LONG...
WHERE ARE YOU?
HELP ME...
I... I THINK I'M IN A LOT OF TROUBLE.
WHAT HAPPENED?
THEY'RE... GONNA KILL ME, I'M SURE...
!!
THEY FOUND OUT I SOLD YOU STUFF CHEAP.

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SHINODA'S LEFT HIS HOUSE.
ROGER THAT.
KATSUKI HASN'T–
HEY...
UH, NEVER MIND. DIFFERENT GUY.
–MOVED, YET.
BZZT
DAMMIT, KAZAMI... KNOCK OFF THE FALSE ALARMS ALREADY!
WE FINALLY HAVE A TARGET AFTER LONG, FRUITLESS SEARCHING!
DON'T BLOW IT NOW!
FFT
Yeah, yeah I GET IT.
TAKE IT EASY! IT'S A NATURAL RESULT OF KEEPING MY EYES OPEN, AFTER ALL.
KATSUKI
WHY I OUGHTA–!
VROOOM
what're you hoping for?!
JEEN!
HEY, WAIT A SEC... WAS THAT KATSUKI IN THE CAR JUST NOW?
HUH?
OH, RIGHT!
HURRY! AFTER 'IM!
KACHIK
IF HE WENT T'THE TROUBLE OF CHANGIN' CLOTHES BEFORE COMING OUT... WHAT'S HE PLAYIN' AT?
VROOOM

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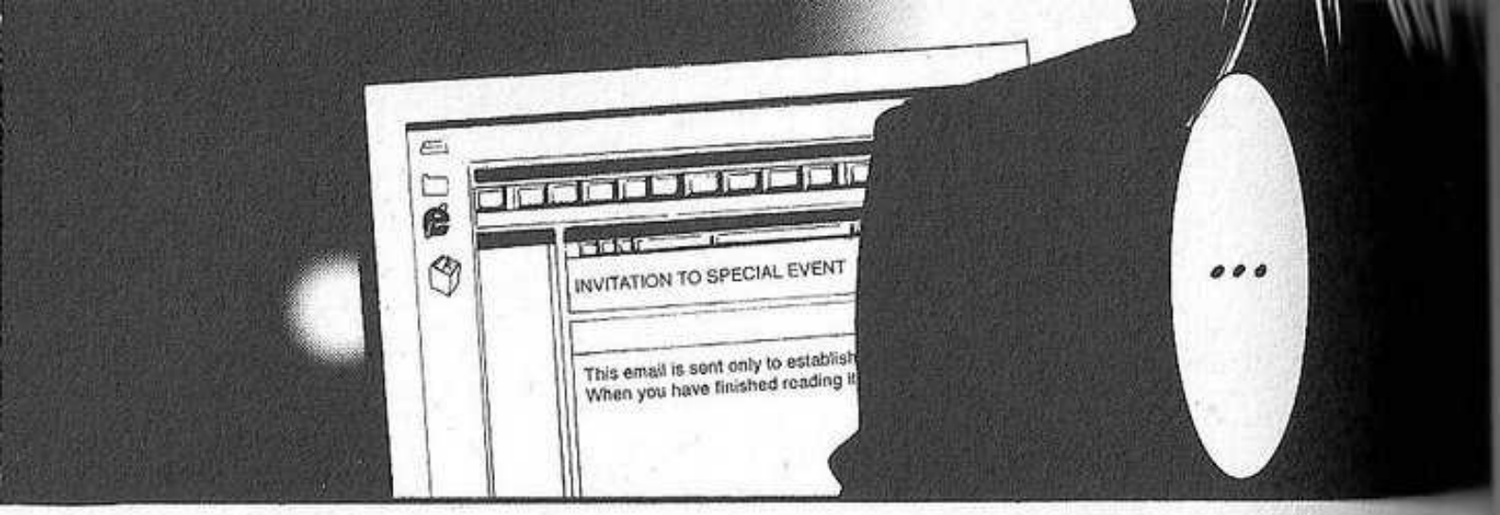

As a replacement, a special event will be held tonight.

If you wish to participate, we advise you to prepare an attire that can assemble at the above time and location.

KATSU, Red Promoter

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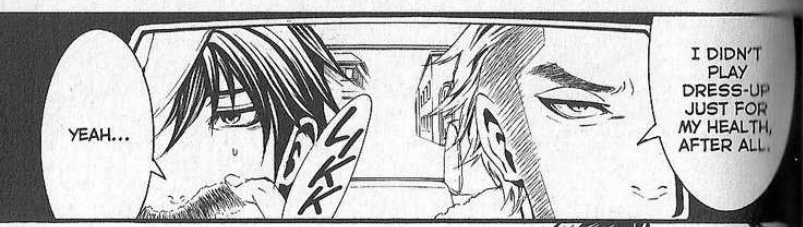

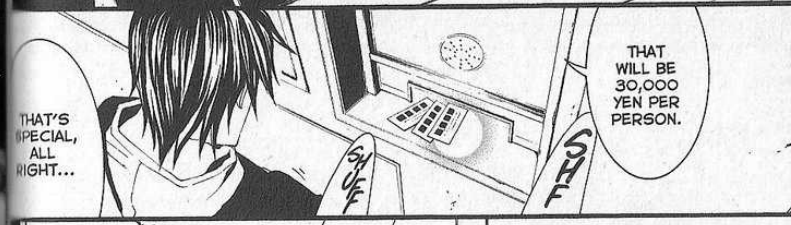

PLEASE DO NOT DIS-CLOSE ANY DE-TAILS ABOUT THIS EVENT.
I KNOW.
KPEEEE
YOU CAN CHANGE IN THE BACK.
THEN PLEASE WAIT UNTIL THE SACRI-FICE AR-RIVES.

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HUFF
HUFF
WHEN WE WERE GIVIN' IT TO HISATO.
?!
I NEVER REALLY ...
... THOUGHT ABOUT IT. THAT'S A LIE.
THAT'S WHY I KNEW THAT YOU'D SHOW UP WITH YOUR DAMN SENSE OF JUSTICE, EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE AN ADDICT TOO.
SHOW UP...? WHEN?
GULP
HEH.
ALWAYS THE COOL OBSERVER, THE DICTATOR.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
YES IT IS. YOU'VE BEEN THAT WAY SINCE COLLEGE.
TO BE HONEST, I ALWAYS ENVIED YOU WHEN YOU TOOK EVERYTHING IN STRIDE LIKE THAT.
WHAT?
OH, NOTHING... JUST THINKING HOW RARE IT IS FOR YOU TO GET SO INTO SOMETHING.
IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT WITH YOU.
KATSUKI ...?
NOW WAIT WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOU-
'COURSE, THAT WENT OUT THE DOOR SOON ENOUGH.
WHERE WAS YOUR SENSE OF JUSTICE ONCE YOU WANTED HISATO *YOURSELF?*
LIKE YOU THOUGHT IT WAS DUMB TO REALLY GET INTO THE STUFF--YET YOU MADE HOW MANY TIMES MORE THAN ME, WRITING ABOUT DRUGS?
IT WAS THE SAME ONCE YOU BECAME A WRITER.
YOU KEPT A DISTANCE FROM YOUR DRUG BUDDIES.
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT...?

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KLUNK
THEY LEFT ABOUT AN HOUR AGO, APPARENTLY.
!
I BROUGHT THEM THEIR COFFEE, BUT THEY NEVER TOUCHED IT...
AND WHAT DID THE TWO OF THEM DO?

HELLO, MR. SACRIFICE.
HISATO ...?
BARA
WHAT'S WRONG? IT'S YOUR BELOVED HISATO AND YOUR PRECIOUS RED.
THE RED PARTY'S STARTING.
C'MON, DO AS MUCH AS YOU WANT.
GRAB

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C'MON, NOW...
IT'S NOTHING PERSONAL, AFTER ALL.
BAT
TWITCH
WE'D BE HAPPY FOR YOU TO DIE ANY OLD WAY.
BUT KATSUKI JUST HAD TO HAVE HIS WAY, SO...
...!
CLATTER
SHF
WELL...
Y-YEAH...
YOU CAME TO SAVE ME, DIDN'T YOU?
GAH
HOLD STILL, MAN.
KATSUKI!
I NEED YOU...
...TO DIE FOR ME, OKAY?
TIK
!!
RELAX, THIS IS JUST A TRAN-QUILIZER.
AAH!
W-WHY ARE YOU...?
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO...?
I'M PLEASED THAT MY LITTLE RED-DEALING RING IS GETTING INTO GEAR.
BUT THAT PESKY INVESTIGATION IS GETTING CLOSER.
SO I DECIDED TO THROW THEM A BONE AND MAKE IT LOOK LIKE THE GROUP'S DISBANDED.
BUT... WHY! WHY ME?!
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING? YOU'RE PERFECT FOR THE JOB!

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!
"CHARISMATIC DRUG WRITER SHINO DISCOVERED WITH DESIGNER DRUG 'RED' IN ROOM... SUSPECTED TO BE LEADER OF RED SMUGGLING RING..."
HELLUVA LEAD-IN, DON'T YOU THINK?
HEH.
IF THE REAL LEADER WERE CAUGHT, WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO LIVE NORMALLY.
AFTER ALL...
!
ALSO...
I IMAGINE THAT'LL MAKE YOU LOOK LIKE THAT MUCH MORE OF AN ADDICT.
THERE'S NO PROOF THAT I'M THE LEADER!
I ALREADY TOOK ALL THE DRUGS YOU GAVE ME BEFORE!
THAT'S PRETTY CONVENIENT.
WHEN YOU WERE SLEEPING, I WENT INTO YOUR CLOSET...
...AND LEFT A BUNCH OF DRUGS AND A PHONE WITH ALL THE NUMBERS OF YOUR "CLIENTS."
WHA-
YOU PATHETIC BASTARD.

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE LONG-AWAITED HUMAN SACRIFICE HAS ARRIVED! FEEL FREE TO CUT HIM UP AS YOU PLEASE!
BAT
!
CUT HIM UP...? ARE THEY GONNA...?!
ON MY SIGNAL, EVERY-BODY DIG IN...
WE'LL BE CLEANING UP THOROUGHLY AFTER THE EVENT, SO PLEASE FEEL FREE TO ENJOY YOUR-SELVES!
NOW THEN...
GRIN
I CAN'T... MOVE... OH GOD...
THEY'RE REALLY GONNA KILL ME...

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WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO LET US GO?
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ANY DRUG EMAILS...
...
I JUST DID WHATEVER KASAHARA TOLD ME TO DO.
AFTER MY MOM DIED... I NEEDED MONEY TO LIVE...
AFTER ALL, IT'S NOT OUR FAULT.
I GOT A CELL PHONE WITH CLIENT CONTACTS ON IT FROM AN IRANIAN GUY.
WHERE'D HE COME FROM? HELL IF I KNOW.
I GOT THE DRUGS FROM HIM TOO.
WHAT WAS HIS NAME?
Interroga Room
ALL I KNEW WAS THE PHONE NUMBER
"DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL"— HAPPENS ALL THE TIME IN THIS BUSINESS. IT'S SAFER THAT WAY.
SO WHAT ABOUT THE GUY YOU TEAMED UP WITH, SHOKI KASAHARA?
SHOKI? BEFORE HE DIED, HIS OLD MAN MADE THE KID SELL DRUGS. HE DIDN'T WANT TO...
POOR KID.
I STARTED SELLING THE RED IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, ON MY STEPFATHER'S ORDERS.
HE THREATENED THAT IF I DIDN'T DO IT, HE WOULDN'T LET ME IN THE HOUSE.
IF MY STEP-FATHER WERE ARRESTED, MY MOM WOULD HAVE NOWHERE TO GO.
SO I JUST TOOK IT...
WHY DIDN'T YOU LOOK FOR HELP?
I SEE ...

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THERE'RE THINGS WE WOULDN'T KNOW WITHOUT MAKING ARRESTS.
...
NO...
UM... DID WE DO SOMETHING WRONG?
WE JUST WANTED ENOUGH MONEY TO LIVE LIKE AVERAGE PEOPLE.
YOU CAN'T EXCUSE ANYTHING JUST BY SAYING "WE DID IT TO LIVE."
OH, OKAY... I DIDN'T KNOW...
NOBODY EVER TOLD ME THAT.
NOBODY WOULD EVER HELP.
YOU AWAKE YET?
...
...
WHY DIDN'T AN ADULT HELP THEM OUT?
IF SOMEBODY HAD JUST DONE SOMETHING, THEN...
...
HARD TO TELL WHO THE VICTIM IS HERE...
WHY...

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MR. KAJIYAMA...
I TOLD YOU NOT TO COME BACK HERE.
ONCE YOU'RE RECOVERED IT'LL BE BACK TO THE INTERROGATION ROOM WITH YOU.
SO GET READY FOR IT.
TOSS
MR. KAJIYAMA, I...
...
I THOUGHT... I THOUGHT...
...THEY WERE MY FRIENDS, ALL ALONG.
YOU THOUGHT YOUR DRUG BUDDIES WERE YOUR FRIENDS?
LISTEN. THEY USED YOU, AND THEY WERE GONNA KILL YOU. THAT'S REALITY.
YOU CALL THAT FRIENDSHIP?

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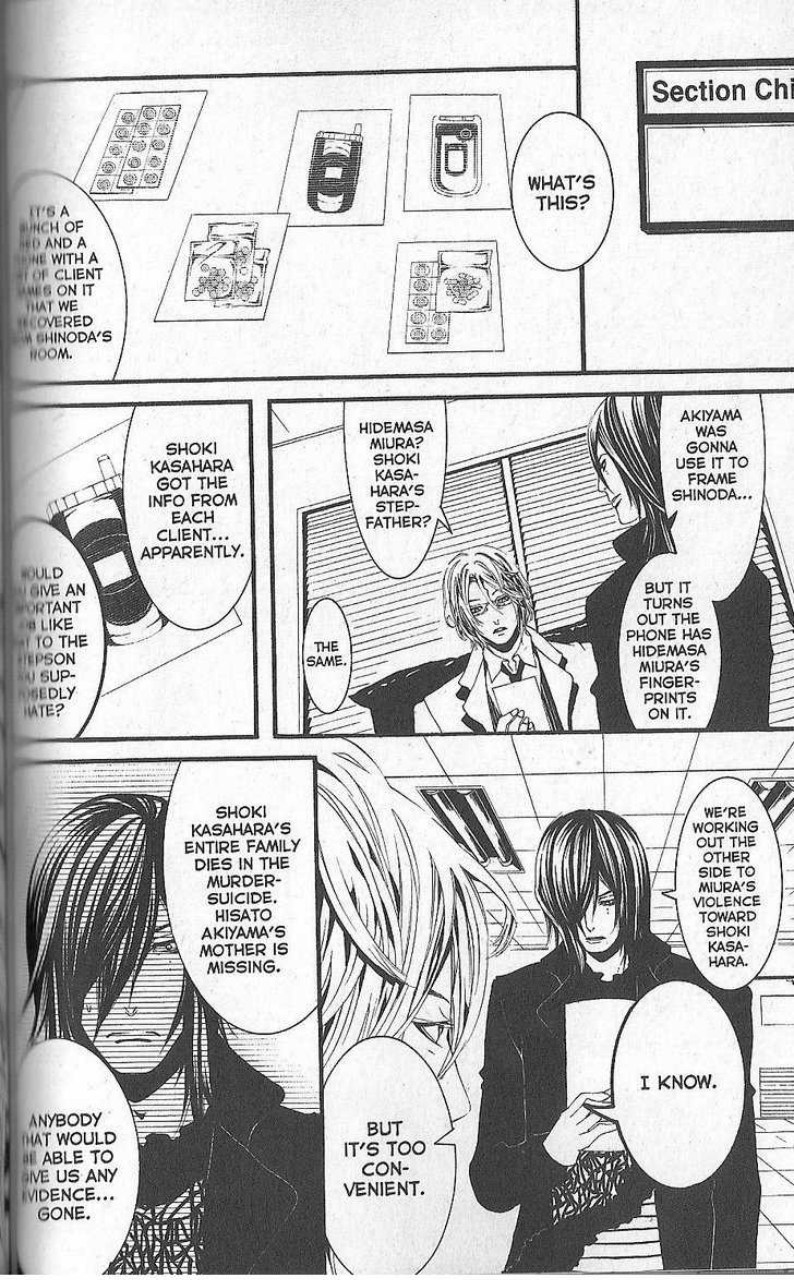
...DID THEY PUNISH THE ADULTS THAT REJECTED THEM?
WAS SELLING DRUGS REALLY THEIR ONLY CRIME?
OR...
YES.
IT'LL MAKE THE DISMANTLING OF THE RED THAT MUCH MORE BELIEVABLE.
SECRETS EXIST TO PROTECT PEOPLE.
HUH? HAVE THE NCD CATCH US ON PURPOSE?
DON'T WORRY, I'VE GOT A PLAN.
AFTER ALL...
YEAH, BUT... WILL IT REALLY GO THAT SMOOTHLY?


Section Chi
WHAT'S THIS?
IT'S A BUNCH OF ED AND A ONE WITH A T OF CLIENT MES ON IT THAT WE COVERED M SHINODA'S ROOM.
SHOKI KASAHARA GOT THE INFO FROM EACH CLIENT... APPARENTLY.
OULD U GIVE AN PORTANT B LIKE T TO THE EPSON U SUPOSEDLY HATE?
HIDEMASA MIURA? SHOKI KASAHARA'S STEPFATHER?
THE SAME.
AKIYAMA WAS GONNA USE IT TO FRAME SHINODA...
BUT IT TURNS OUT THE PHONE HAS HIDEMASA MIURA'S FINGERPRINTS ON IT.
SHOKI KASAHARA'S ENTIRE FAMILY DIES IN THE MURDER-SUICIDE. HISATO AKIYAMA'S MOTHER IS MISSING.
ANYBODY THAT WOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE US ANY EVIDENCE... GONE.
BUT IT'S TOO CONVENIENT.
WE'RE WORKING OUT THE OTHER SIDE TO MIURA'S VIOLENCE TOWARD SHOKI KASAHARA.
I KNOW.

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SORRY... YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON, DO YOU?
sniff
A-ASSIS-TANT CHIEF?
WHAD
RAWWR
EASY, EASY.
OWW
STAARE
ARE YOU REAL-LY YOU'RE EVEN MORE BABY FACED THAN ISOBE
ASSIS-TANT CHIEF! DON'T FREAK THE KID OUT!
BOIT
AUUGGH
DO YOU EAT ENOUGH?
EASY, NOW...
ZWIP
HENCE THE COMBINATION TARDINESS PUNISHMENT-WELCOMING COMMITTEE.
SO THAT'S WHY HE WANTED ME TO COME EARLY...
eeek
I-I'M SORRY...!
SECTION 2'S SHORT HANDED SO WE ASKED THE CHIEF AND HE SAID WE COULD BORROW YOU.
OH...
WE WAITED UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE AT THE OFFICE, BUT IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE YOU WERE GONNA MAKE IT IN TIME...
BOW
HEY.
SO, INTRO-DUCTIONS
THIS IS KAZAMI-HE WAS WITH US ON THE RED CASE.
GREATER KANTO PUBLIC WELFARE MINISTRY NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION SECTION 2, AGENT, JUNSHIN KAZAMI
ISOBE...?!
DRIVE FOR ME.
YES-SIR.
GRAB
UM... WHY... WHY ARE YOU...?
OOH, YOU FIGURED IT OUT?
HMPH
AW, MAN... That's no fun
F-FIGURED... WHAT OUT?
raaaar!
TWITCH
YOU CHEEKY SON-UVA-!
UM, UH- YOU GUYS ...!
NO FIGHT-ING-!
SHF
!
SWIP
HEY, ANYWAY...
WHOA!
IT WAS JUST YOUR REGULAR VOICE, WASN'T IT?
SOB
AH! He's crying! sniff
WELL, I MEAN I JUST WAS GONNA GET YOUR ATTENTION AND GET YOU IN THE CAR, WAS ALL...
OH SURE, NOW YOU ACT LIKE YOU'RE INNO-CENT!

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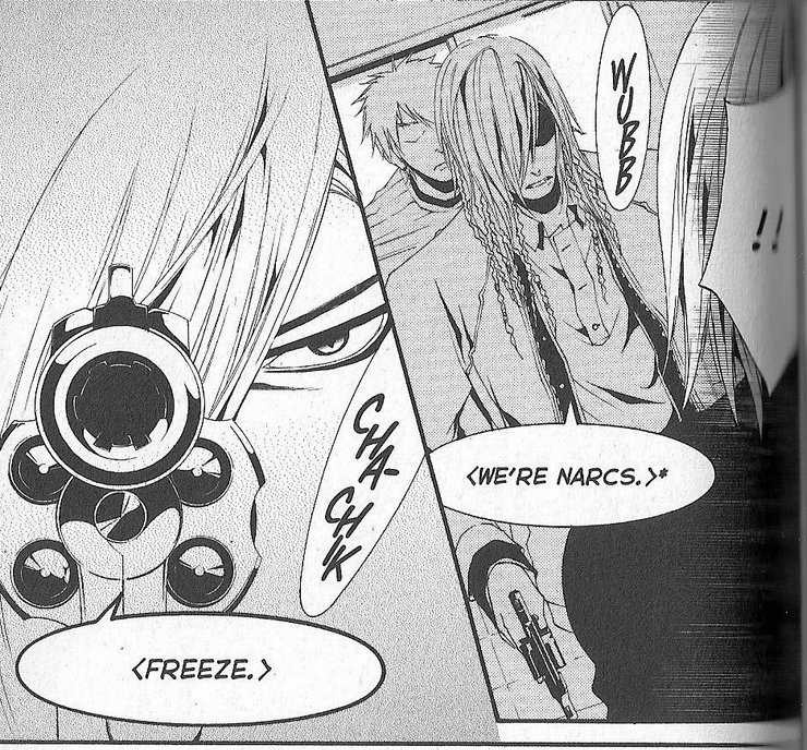
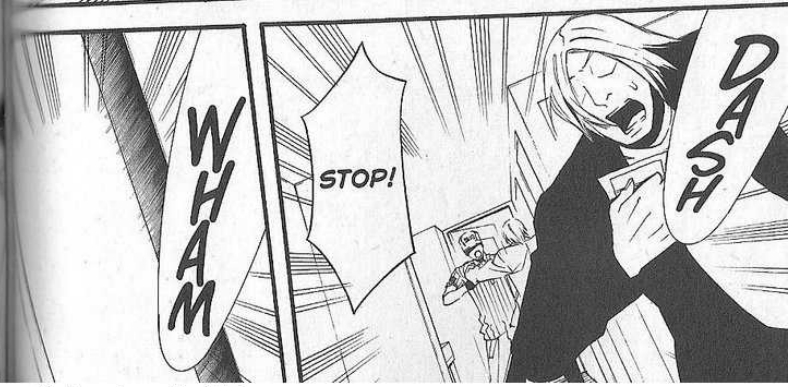


*SPOKEN IN ENGLISH TO THE FOREIGNER



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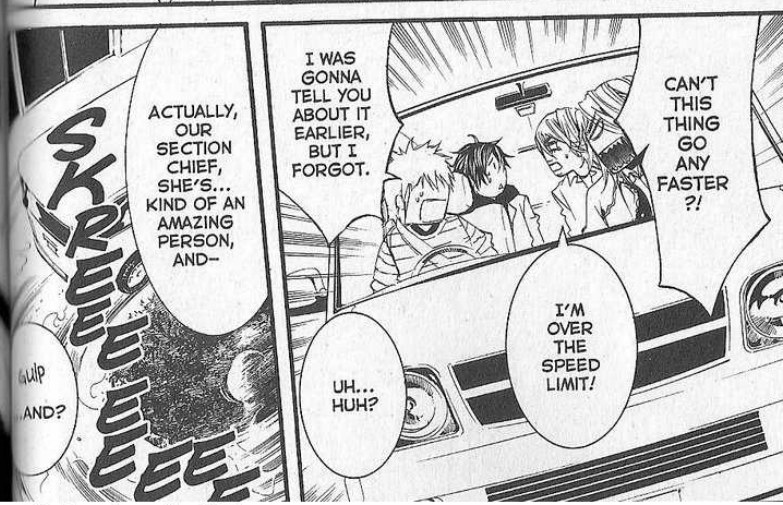
I STOOD UP TO PUT SOME TEA ON FOR WHEN YOU ALL GOT BACK, BUT... THEN I GOT DIZZY AND...
NOOOONE
...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO STUFF LIKE THAT FOR US, CHIEF!
ASA-KURA...? YOU'RE BACK ALREADY...?
IT'S BECAUSE YOU DROPPED OFF THE RADIO!
SORRY...
DRAG
DRAG
BAT
NORIKA! NORIKA!
...UH...?


SKREEEEEEEE
ACTUALLY, OUR SECTION CHIEF, SHE'S... KIND OF AN AMAZING PERSON, AND-
GULP
AND?
I WAS GONNA TELL YOU ABOUT IT EARLIER, BUT I FORGOT.
CAN'T THIS THING GO ANY FASTER?!
I'M OVER THE SPEED LIMIT!
UH... HUH?

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*Head Bandage
PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR?
IS SECTION 2 ALL...
THUD
WE ARE, CHIEF! ♡
WHAT? WHY IS EVERYBODY SO CALM?
Aw, tea would've been nice!
We just can't leave you alone, can we?
GOODNESS, YOU'RE SUCH A TROUBLEMAKER, CHIEF!
SHUFF
SLUMP
Eat! Liver! You must eat liver!
WELL, ATO, IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, ASK ISOBE.
Aw, the chief's getting the royal treatment.
O-OKAY. 'Ato'?
snerk
I'M KAI ETO! PLEASED TO MEET YOU!
THIS IS KAI ETO—SECTION 1 SENT HIM TO HELP US OUT.
POW
HEL-LO.
STAAARE
SECTION 2 IS KINDA WEIRD...
OH YEAH.
AND... WHAT ABOUT HIM?
THAT'S ONE OF THE BIG DIFFERENCES WE HAVE FROM SECTION 1.
AREN'T SECTIONS 1 AND 2 THE SAME THOUGH?
YEAH, MOST OF THE AGENTS IN SECTION 2 CAN SPEAK A FOREIGN LANGUAGE.
IN CONTRAST TO SECTION 1'S OMNIPOTENT INVESTIGATIONS, WE FOCUS MORE ON INTERNATIONAL DRUG OFFENSES.
OBJECTIVES?

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SMAK
OUR INVESTIGATION TURNED UP THE SPOT WHERE AA DOES HIS DEALS.
THE MAN IN THAT PHOTO.
AA
HE'S A BIG-TIME BUYER FROM ENGLAND. REAL NAME'S "ALBERT ASH."
ALIAS "AA."
NEXT TO HIM IS HIS BODY-GUARD AND INTER-PRETER.
SHF
THE GUYS WE ARRESTED BEFORE WERE INTERMEDIARIES THAT GO BETWEEN FOREIGN DEALERS AND JAPANESE CLIENTS.
EVER SINCE AA ENTERED THE COUNTRY A WEEK AGO, WE'VE BEEN SURVEILLING HIM
!
TONIGHT.
AND WHEN'S THE DEAL HAPPENING?
TO-NIGHT?
SHOOK
SO IN THE RED INVESTIGATION, YOU CHECKED OUT THE IRANIAN, RIGHT?
OUR OTHER NAME IS "THE INTER-NATIONAL SECTION."
WE SPECIALIZE IN THINGS LIKE BUSTING FOREIGNERS SMUGGLING DRUGS INTO THE COUNTRY, OR FOREIGN BROKERS OPERATING IN THE COUNTRY.
THE OTHER BIG DIFFERENCE IS...
ISOBE.
KACHAK
YES?
BUT SOME-TIMES AN AGENT GETS DIS-PATCHED OVER-SEAS, AND THEN WE'RE SHORT-HANDED.
PAT
YES SIR.
EMERGENCY MEETING. GET EVERY-BODY TOGETHER AND MEET IN TEN MINUTES.
YOU GO OVER-SEAS?!
ONCE YOU DO A CASE WITH US, YOU'LL SEE.
SMILE

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GULP
AA ONLY COMES TO JAPAN AND DOES THESE BIG DEALS TWO OR THREE TIMES A YEAR.
IF WE LET THIS CHANCE SLIP AWAY, THERE'S NO WAY OF KNOWING WHEN THE NEXT WOULD COME.
SO THAT NEITHER THE BUYERS NOR THE DEALERS...
BEEP
THAT'S RIGHT, AGENTS.
IT'S TIME TO PUT AN END TO THIS...
KRUMP
CAN PULL THIS CRAP IN JAPAN EVER AGAIN.
THE DEAL'S HAPPENING AT CLUB YELLOW MONKEY IN ROPPONGI.

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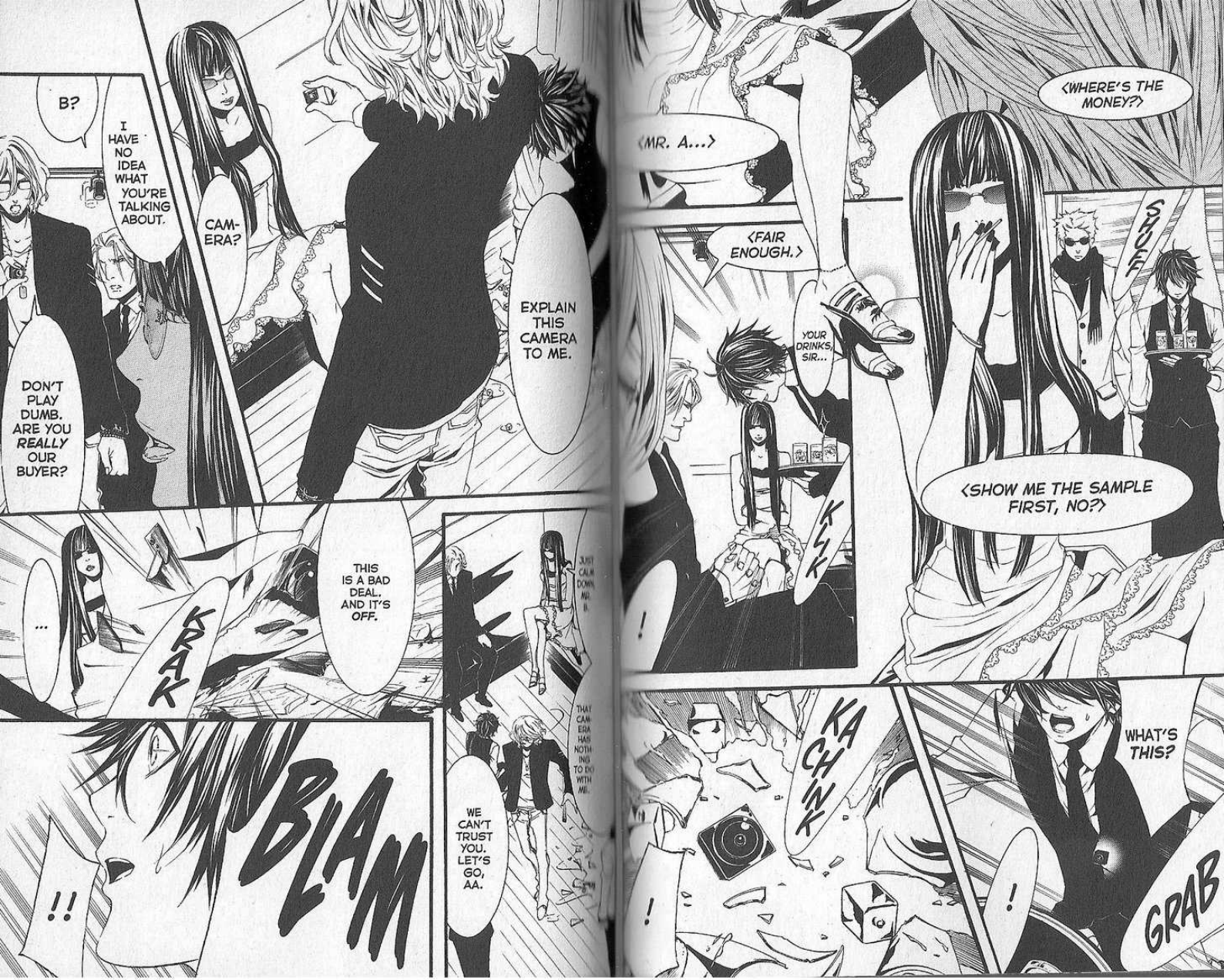

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IT SEEMS NOT... HE'S NO MERE WAITER.
IS HE A COP... OR A NARC?
!
DO YOU UNDERSTAND NOW, MR. A? THAT CAMERA WASN'T MINE.
KA-CHI-K
HU SH
ALL OF TODAY'S CUSTOMERS ARE MY PEOPLE.
...
I ADMIRE YOUR GUTS, BUT UNFORTUNATELY...
SHFF

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IT WAS! JUST WHAT I'D EXPECT FROM SECTION 1!
I GOTTA SAY, THAT SCAREDY-CAT PERFORMANCE OF YOURS WAS GREAT!
PAT
PAT
WELL DONE.
C'MON, YOU TWO, INTRODUCE YOURSELVES PROPERLY.
Huh?
AAAAACK!
AND I'M KURODA— I WAS THE FAKE BUYER.
I'm only half-Japanese!
GREATER KANTO PUBLIC WELFARE MINISTRY NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION SECTION 2
AYAKA KURODA
YOU'RE... AGENTS?!
GREATER KANTO PUBLIC WELFARE MINISTRY NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION SECTION 2
KENSUKE SHINDO

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Woo hoo!
AFTER ALL, MOST OF OUR TARGETS ARE FOREIGN, SO THEY'RE CARRYING KNIVES OR GUNS, AND WE HAVE TO BE READY.
MOST OF THE OTHER AGENTS HAVE SOME KIND OF HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT EXPERIENCE TOO.
RIGHT...
HEY, ASAKURA-
STAAARE
OF COURSE, WHAT REALLY MAKES SECTION 2 STRONG...
I WAS REALLY SURPRISED WHEN I FIRST TRANSFERRED HERE.
Really
teehee
ESPECIALLY THE ASSISTANT CHIEF AND HIS PRECIOUS BATON.
WHEN I SAID "DON'T GO EASY," DID I SAY TO TRASH THE PLACE? DID I?
Do you have any idea how much it's costing us?
SQUEEEEE
OW! OW! LEMME GO!
YER BREAKING MY ARM!
STRETCH
KRAK KRAK
...IS HER.

FOR THIS CASE...
WE'D HAD SEVERAL AGENTS WORKING UNDERCOVER FOR SEVERAL MONTHS ON BOTH AA AND HIS GO-BETWEENS.
OH, RIGHT. I HADN'T FINISHED EXPLAINING.
TODAY WAS PRETTY INTENSE.
MM
"GO-SIGN?"
WE DON'T OFTEN GET THE GO-SIGN FROM THE CHIEF.
"DON'T GO EASY ON THEM."
???
WHICH IS WHY WE WERE SHORT-HANDED ON THE MAIN BUST.
AA'S GOT MAFIA CONNECTIONS, WHICH IS WHY I HAD TO "DIE."
UM, ARE YOUR CASES ALWAYS LIKE THIS?
ACTUALLY, THERE'S ONE OTHER SPECIALTY WE HAVE IN SECTION 2.
yo!
ITS OTHER NICKNAME IS "THE FIGHTING SECTION."
LIKE THE ASSISTANT CHIEF, WHO'S SWEPT HAND-TO-HAND TOURNAMENTS...
OR KAZAMI HERE, WHO WAS A BOXING CHAMP IN HIS COLLEGE DAYS.

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SHE'S AN AIKIDO INSTRUCTOR.
OH, BY THE WAY...
WE'RE ALL RIGHT, CHIEF! ♡
#Except for one.
GRK
IS EVERYBODY ALL RIGHT? NO INJURIES?
I bought a cake for the post-bust party!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY MORE ENERGY FOR SNAPPY COMEBACKS, YOU SAY? WHAT HAPPENED OVER IN SECTION 2, ANYWAY?
got two pieces of cake for working so hard
...
YOU REALLY HELPED US OUT TOO. YOU'LL HAVE TO COME AGAIN...
HEY-
PATT
WHY AM I ALL MELLOWED-OUT TOO?!
Ack!
Chief
HUH?
SMILE
...
...ATO.

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CLASP
THANK YOU.
I'LL MAKE SURE TO PROTECT YOU THEN.
CALL ME IMMEDIATELY IF ANYTHING HAPPENS.
TAP TAP
I WILL.
CLICK
HERE, YOUR RADIOS.
WE GOT A TIP THAT A FOREIGN DEALER IS SELLING LOW-GRADE STUFF AT A CERTAIN CLUB.
THIS GUY.
HE GIVES HIS "CANDY" TO GIRLS WHO APPROACH HIM.
"CANDY?"
RUMMAGE RUMMAGE
UM... BUT...
SO FIRST WE NEED TO HIT THE LOCATION AND SEE IF A DEEPER INVESTIGATION IS NECESSARY.
WE DON'T KNOW FOR SURE, BUT IT'S PROBABLY SOME KIND OF SNACK WITH THE DRUGS ON THE INSIDE.
SO THAT'S WHAT IT WAS...
I WANT HIM TO LET HIS GUARD DOWN WITH BOTH OF US AS WOMEN.
PLEASE.
OKAY, I GET IT.
AND IT'D BE HARD TO GET THE DEALER'S ATTENTION IF I HAD SHINDO ALONG WITH ME AS A DATE.
THERE WASN'T ANY NEED FOR ME TO CROSS-DRESS...
WELL, IF I WERE ALONE, I'D BE ON MY OWN IF SOMETHING HAPPENED...

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THAT FACE...! HE'S THE GUY!
UH, YEAH...
KINDA...
JEEZ... KURODA'S SO FAST.
I BETTER GIVE HER SOME SPACE SO I CAN WATCH WITHOUT LOSING HER.
!
SHF
SURE.
WELL THEN, WILL YOU HAVE A DRINK WITH ME?
IF I GET SOME CANDY FROM THIS GUY, WE CAN CHECK IT OUT!
UM, I CAN'T...
I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE ACTUA...
OH?
MAYBE YOU KNOW THEM?
SOMEONE WHO CAN GIVE ME SOME CANDY...
OH-
!
SHF
WHERE'S YOUR FRIEND? DID SHE LEAVE YOU ALL ALONE?

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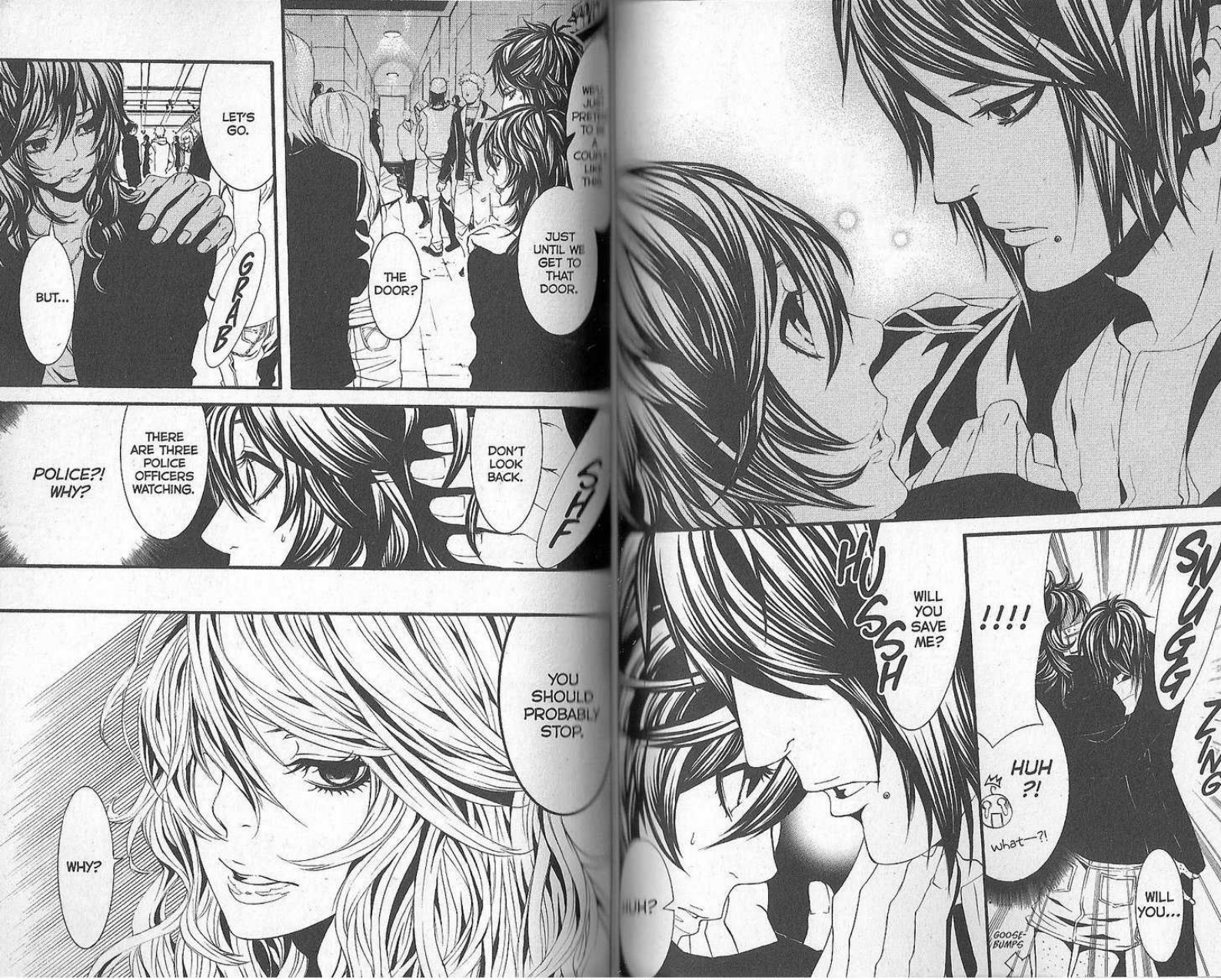

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CHA-CHONGG
...!
The rope...?
VOOM
THIS IS THE GREATER KANTO PUBLIC WELFARE MINISTRY NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION!
HAND OVER THE ROPE, NICE AND EASY!
ZOOOONE
K-KURO-DA...
OH...
THE NCD...?
SHF
YOU'RE THE PICKUP ARTIST FROM BEFORE.
I ALSO FIGURED I'D COME BACK TO GET YOU WHEN WE WERE DONE HERE.
YOU GOT MY ATTENTION JUST TO GET ME AWAY FROM HER, DIDN'T YOU?
OH, WELL THEN...
YOU CAME TOO, EH?
GREAT TIMING. LET'S HAVE SOME FUN.
YOU ...

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GACK
DUMB-LOOKING GIRL...?
THEN HIS BUDDY COMES OUT AND MAKES A PASS AT HER, GETS HER INTO THE VIP ROOM, AND...
ONE GUY PICK A DUMB LOOKIN GIRL OU OF THE CLUB, GI HER SOM "CANDY.
THEY DON'T WANT THEIR OWN DRUG USE TO BE RE-VEALED.
IT'S A PERFECT EXPLOIT-ATION OF WEAKNESS.
...
AND THE CRIME GOES UNREPORTED BECAUSE IT WAS FILMED, APPARENTLY.
OH... I SEE...
HE DIDN'T SEEM LIKE THE MAIN OFFENDER, ANYWAY.
IN THE MEANTIME WE'RE GOING TO GATHER INFORMATION CENTERED AROUND THE ONE WE ARRESTED.
OH, UH, WHAT HAP-PENED TO THE GUY THAT RAN AWAY?
NO DICE. HE WAS TOO FAST.
ZUDD
...
BOTH WERE POSITIVE FOR NAR-COTICS.
WE ANALYZED THE CANDY ETO GOT, AND THE INJECTION HE ALMOST GOT.
Examination Room

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Act.44

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Greater Kanto Public Welfare Ministry
LISTEN UP.
WE'LL NOW REPORT ON THE RESULTS FROM THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE RECENT ATTEMPTED ASSAULT.
WE TRACED THE LOW-GRADE NARCOTIC CALLED "CANDY." A FOREIGN BUYER WAS THE MAIN DEALER.
AGENT ETO AND I INFILTRATED THE OPERATION...
...RESULTING IN THE ARRESTS OF THESE SEVEN INDIVIDUALS
TAP
INVESTIGATION OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL REPORTS CONFIRMS THAT THE MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPPLYING THEM WITH DRUGS...
...ESCAPED THE SCENE, AND...
KACHUNK

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LAST NIGHT THE BODY OF A WOMAN WAS DISCOVERED...
...IN THE BATHROOM OF A ROPPONGI CLUB, IN MINATO WARD.
Chief
A YOUNG MAN FROM THE SCENE OF THE CRIME IS CURRENTLY BEING QUESTIONED...
...IN CONNECTION WITH THE WOMAN'S DEATH.
BEEP
CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE SITUATION HERE?
I DIDN'T DO IT.
I'D LIKE TO BELIEVE THAT.
SO WHO DID?

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WILL YOU STOP HIDING THINGS?
YOU WERE CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION ON YOUR OWN TIME.
YOU CAN'T JUST DO THAT.
AM I WRONG?
IF YOU'VE GOT TO GET ON THE CASE THAT BADLY, MAYBE I'LL JUST HAND YOU OVER TO SECTION 2.
TUP TUP
SECTION 2?
...
I'VE GOT NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
WHAT THE HELL DOES SECTION 2 HAVE TO DO WITH...?
KAUNK
A LOT.
SHF
YOU FOUND IT, RIGHT?
DID YOU LOOK INTO THE EVIDENCE LOGGED IN THE DOCUMENT ROOM?

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ARE YOU...
BY ALL RIGHTS, YOU SHOULDN'T EVEN BE HERE.
AND UNTIL YOUR INNOCENCE IS PROVEN ...
...YOUR RIGHT TO INVESTIGATE WILL BE REVOKED.
!
PLEASE DON'T FORGET THAT YOU'RE A SUSPECT IN A HOMICIDE.
AFTER THIS, YOU'LL BE CALLED BACK BY THE AZABU POLICE AND QUESTIONED, NO DOUBT.
IT'D BE BETTER TO DIE...
WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?
ARE YOU TRYING TO GET HIM KILLED?
I GUESS THAT'S MY ANSWER.
!
WILL SOMETHING HAPPEN IF KAI GETS INVOLVED WITH THE RYUGEN?

SO YOU'RE GOING AFTER THE RYUGEN WITH SECTION 2 NOW?
THE RYUGEN MAY BE INVOLVED IN A CASE SECTION 2 CURRENTLY HAS OPEN.
I WANT YOU TO TURN OVER THE INFORMATION YOU'VE GATHERED ON YOUR OWN TO SECTION 2.
WE HAVEN'T CONFIRMED THEIR INVOLVEMENT, BUT WE NEED TO INVESTIGATE FURTHER.
HE'S SOMEONE WITH EXPERIENCE DEALING WITH THE RYUGEN— I CAN'T TAKE HIM OFF.
IF YOU'LL TAKE KAI OFF THE CASE, THAT IS.
FINE.
UNFORTUNATELY, YOU DON'T HAVE THAT CHOICE.
IN THAT CASE, I WON'T BE ABLE TO COOPERATE EITHER.
SHF

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HE PERIODICALLY SHOWS UP IN ROPPONGI CLUBS, SELLING HIS STUFF.
WE MAKE HIM FOR HIS LATE 20s.
THE ONE WHO ESCAPED GOES BY "JIN."
Investigat
Section 2
ANY QUESTIONS SO FAR?
...

KA CHAK
I'M AGAINST IT.
...
...
FLUMP
WE DON'T HAVE A CHOICE BUT TO CONTINUE THE INVESTI-GATION.
IT'S JUST GOING TO PUT THEM IN DANGER AGAIN.
AND IT SHOULD PROVE HAL'S INNOCENCE.
PLUS ...
THERE'S DANGER ON EVERY CASE.

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HAL...
...
HEH... JUST LIKE THE RUMORS.
I'M NOT SHARING ANYTHING BUT INFORMATION WITH YOU ALL.
AND I'LL BE DOING MY CASE HOW I WANT.
WHY'D YOU LEAVE IT OUT OF YOUR REPORT?
POIT
HUH?
AND YOU!
I ONLY SAW IT FOR A SECOND.
AND I THOUGHT I MIGHT HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN.
ALSO, SECTION 2'S WORK WAS LATE.
A SLAVE MARK?
UH...
WELL...
RYUGEN ...?
THIS MAN HAS THE MARK OF A RYUGEN SLAVE.

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...
YOU SURE YOU DIDN'T KILL HER?
THIS...
YOU DID THIS MUCH BY YOUR-SELF?
THE DETAILS ARE IN MY REPORT.
I'VE PUT TOGETHER A LIST OF WHICH CLUBS YOU CAN GET THESE DRUGS AT IN ROPPONGI, ON WHAT DAYS, AND ROUGHLY WHAT TIME OF DAY.
THERE'S A GENERAL PATTERN.
I DON'T HAVE TO DEFEND MYSELF TO YOU.
FWSH

LIS-TEN-
THESE ARE SOME OF THE DRUGS THIS "JIN" HAS BEEN SELLING.
DRAGON SPEED AND DRAGON DIVE.
BOTH OF WHICH ARE RYUGEN-BRANDED STIMULANTS.
BOTH CONFIRMED SEVERAL TIMES IN THE ROPPONGI AREA AFTER THINGS QUIETED DOWN FOLLOWING THE YOKOHAMA INCIDENT.
C'MON
"AKAHA"
THE YOKO-HAMA INCI-DENT...
HEY.
SHF
THE GIRL I SUPPOS-EDLY KILLED WAS ANOTHER DEALER.
WITH THE SLAVE MARK ON HER SHOULDER.

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AHAHA-HAHA! WHAT A GUY!
THIS IS NOTHING TO LAUGH ABOUT. THE CHIEF PUT PRESSURE ON POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS ON THE CONDITION HAL WOULD COOPERATE WITH SECTION 2.
AH, IT'LL BE FINE.
HE'S QUITE THE IMPORTANT LOANER.
SIGH
HE WAS PLENTY COOPER-ATIVE.
GRINN
NOW IT'S JUST A MATTER OF...
...WHICH ONE OF US CAN CATCH THIS GUY FIRST.
HAL! HAL, WAIT UP!

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AND I DON'T WANT *YOU* GETTING INJURED AGAIN!
IF YOU KICK ME OUT, I'LL JUST FOLLOW IN A DIFFERENT CAR!
TCH
VROOOM
DON'T BLAME ME WHEN IT ALL GOES TO HELL...
...
SWITCH 9 THE END

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